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Promotion and protection of all human rights, civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights, including the right to development

Note verbale dated 27 February 2017 from the Permanent Mission of Greece to the United Nations Office and other international organizations in Geneva addressed to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights

The Permanent Mission of Greece to the United Nations Office and other international organizations in Geneva presents its compliments to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and has the honour to provide herewith the comments of the Government of Greece in relation to the written statement by the Federal Union of European Nationalities, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status with the Economic and Social Council (A/HRC/34/NGO/78) (see annex).

The Permanent Mission of Greece kindly requests the Office of the High Commissioner to circulate the present note verbale and the annex* as a document of the thirty-fourth session of the Human Rights Council under agenda item 3.

* Reproduced as received, in the language of submission only.

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Please recycle

Annex to the note verbale dated 27 February 2017 from the Permanent Mission of Greece to the United Nations Office and other international organizations in Geneva addressed to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights

Comments of the Greek Government in relation to the written statement A/HRC/34/NGO/78 submitted by the Federal Union of European Nationalities

The assertion contained in FUEN's statement A/HRC/34/NGO/78 that "there are more than 6,000 Turks living in the islands of Rhodes and Kos" is erroneous and fallacious, being completely out of reality. We invite FUEN to produce tangible evidence of the number of Greek nationals of Muslim faith on these islands or of Turkish nationals legally residing on these islands, in order to substantiate its claims; otherwise it is another sad confirmation of the fact that FUEN is becoming a GONGO.[1]

It is shameful that FUEN takes advantage of the existence of Greek citizens of Muslim faith in order to use them as a means to serve the agenda of Turkish foreign policy, advocated by FUEN's Vice-President, Mr. Halit Habip Oglu.

Indeed, all that is mentioned in FUEN's statement has never been brought up by the Muslim residents themselves, for the reason that they fully enjoy their rights, without being discriminated from other Greek citizens. The rest is just FUEN's fake news.

Interested parties may find our previous statement, circulated in the same respect during the 33rd session of the Human Rights Council, useful.

[1] Government NGO.